WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A printing apparatus capable of performing a calibration for a print characteristic, comprising:

holding means for holding calibration information downloaded from a host device;

generating means for generating calibration information at a predetermined timing; and

execution means for comparing a value represented by the calibration information generated by said generating means and a value represented by the calibration information held by said holding means and, when a difference obtained in said comparing exceeds a predetermined value, executing the calibration based on the calibration information generated by said generation means.

2. A printing apparatus capable of performing a calibration for a print characteristic, comprising:

holding means for holding calibration information downloaded from a host device;

generating means for generating calibration information at a predetermined timing; and

execution means for comparing a value represented by the calibration information generated by said generating means and a value represented by the calibration information held by said holding means,

when a difference obtained in said comparing exceeds a predetermined value, urging the host device to download the calibration information and executing the calibration based on the calibration information downloaded from the host device.

3. A printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein data for the predetermined value is data specified by the host device.

4. A printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein when the difference is equal to or smaller than the predetermined value, said execution means executes the calibration based on the calibration information held by said holding means.

5. A printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein when the difference exceeds the predetermined value, said execution means notifies an error.

6. A printing apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein said execution means, when instruction to skip the error notification is made, executes the calibration based on the calibration information generated by said generating means.

7. A printing apparatus capable of performing a

calibration for a print characteristic, comprising:

holding means for holding calibration information downloaded from a host device;

generating means for generating calibration information at a predetermined timing; and

notification means for comparing a value represented by the calibration information generated by said generating means and a value represented by the calibration information held by said holding means and, when a difference obtained in said comparing exceeds a predetermined value, notifying an error.

8. A printing apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein said execution means performs the comparison on a plurality of values represented by the calibration information and the predetermined value can be differentiated from one comparison to another.

9. A printing apparatus capable of performing a calibration for a print characteristic, comprising:

first holding means for holding calibration information downloaded from a host device; and

second holding means for generating calibration information at a predetermined timing and holding the generated calibration information.

10. A calibration control method for a printing

apparatus capable of performing a calibration for a print characteristic, said method comprising the steps of:

holding calibration information downloaded from a host device;

generating calibration information at a predetermined timing; and

comparing a value represented by the calibration information generated by said step of generating calibration information and a value represented by the calibration information held at said step of holding calibration information and, when a difference obtained in said comparing exceeds a predetermined value, executing the calibration based on the calibration information generated by said step of generating calibration information.

11. A calibration control method for a printing apparatus capable of performing a calibration for a print characteristic, said method comprising the steps of:

holding calibration information downloaded from a host device;

generating calibration information at a predetermined timing; and

comparing a value represented by the calibration information generated by said step of generating

calibration information and a value represented by the calibration information held at said step of holding calibration information, when a difference obtained in said comparing exceeds a predetermined value, urging the host device to download the calibration information and executing the calibration based on the calibration information downloaded from the host device.

12. A calibration control method as claimed in claim 10 or 11, wherein data for the predetermined value is data specified by the host device.

13. A calibration control method as claimed in claim 10 or 11, wherein when the difference is equal to or smaller than the predetermined value, said execution step executes the calibration based on the calibration information held at said step of holding calibration information.

14. A calibration control method as claimed in claim 10 or 11, wherein when the difference exceeds the predetermined value, said execution step notifies an error.

15. A calibration control method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said execution step, when instruction to

skip the error notification is made, executes the calibration based on the calibration information generated by said generating step.

16. A calibration control method as claimed in claim 10 or 11, wherein said execution step performs the comparison on a plurality of values represented by the calibration information and the predetermined value can be differentiated from one comparison to another.

17. A calibration control method for a printing apparatus capable of performing a calibration for a print characteristic, said method comprising the steps of:

holding calibration information downloaded from a host device;

generating calibration information at a predetermined timing; and

comparing a value represented by the calibration information generated by said step of generating calibration information and a value represented by the calibration information held at said step of holding calibration information and, when a difference obtained in said comparing exceeds a predetermined value, notifying an error.

18. A storage medium storing a program which is

readable by an information processing apparatus, said program comprising

calibration control processing for a printing apparatus capable of performing a calibration for a print characteristic, said calibration control processing including the steps of:

holding calibration information downloaded from a host device;

generating calibration information at a predetermined timing; and

comparing a value represented by the calibration information generated by said step of generating calibration information and a value represented by the calibration information held at said step of holding calibration information and, when a difference obtained in said comparing exceeds a predetermined value, executing the calibration based on the calibration information generated by said step of generating calibration information.

19. A storage medium storing a program which is readable by an information processing apparatus, said program comprising

calibration control processing for a printing apparatus capable of performing a calibration for a print characteristic, said calibration control processing including the steps of:

holding calibration information downloaded from a host device;

generating calibration information at a predetermined timing; and

comparing a value represented by the calibration information generated by said step of generating calibration information and a value represented by the calibration information held at said step of holding calibration information, when a difference obtained in said comparing exceeds a predetermined value, urging the host device to download the calibration information and executing the calibration based on the calibration information downloaded from the host device.